

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [1] 15, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT2 protein] is determined by enzyme-linked immunoabsorbent assay (ELISA).
3. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [1] 15, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT2 protein] is determined by hybridization of high density oligonucleotide arrays with cellular mRNA or cDNA prepared therefrom.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim [1] 15, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT2 protein] is determined by RT-PCR of cellular RNA or mRNA.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim [1] 15, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT2 protein] is determined by Northern blot hybridization.
6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [1] 15, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT2 protein] is determined by immunohistochemical detection.

7. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [1] 15, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT2 protein] is determined by protein microarray

8. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [1] 16, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT1 protein] is determined by enzyme-linked immunoabsorbent assay (ELISA).

9. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [1] 16, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT1 protein] is determined by hybridization of high density oligonucleotide arrays with cellular mRNA or cDNA prepared therefrom.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim [1] 16, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets is determined by RT-PCR of cellular RNA or mRNA. [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT1 protein is determined by enzyme-linked immunoabsorbent assay (ELISA).]

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim [1] 16, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT1 protein] is determined by Northern blot hybridization.

12. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [1] 16, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in

a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT1 protein] is determined by immunohistochemical detection.

13. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [1] 16, wherein the [amount] quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level, or both from each of the control cell pellets [in a first portion of each cell pellet prepared from at least two cell lines expressing differing amounts of AKT1 protein] is determined by protein microarray.

14. (New) A method for determining the quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level or both in cells of a biological sample, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) immunohistochemically staining AKT protein in a plurality of control cell pellets using a detectably labeled antibody directed against AKT, wherein the quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level or both in the plurality of control cell pellets is independently known, and wherein the expression, activation level or both expression and activation level of AKT in each of the plurality of control cell pellets is not the same;

(b) determining an average optical density of stained AKT protein per pixel of cellular area for each of the stained plurality of control cell pellets in (a);

(c) generating a calibration curve relating the known quantity of AKT protein, AKT protein activation level or both with said average optical density of stained AKT protein per pixel of cellular area as determined in (b) for each of the plurality of control cell pellets;

(d) immunohistochemically staining AKT protein from said biological sample using said detectably labeled antibody directed against AKT protein;

(e) determining an average optical density of stained AKT protein per pixel of cellular area in said biological sample;

(f) determining the quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level or both in said biological sample by comparing the average optical density of stained AKT protein per pixel of cellular area as determined in step (e) in said biological sample to the calibration curve as generated in step (c), wherein the quantity of AKT protein, the AKT protein activation level or both is derived from the calibration curve.

15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the expression, activation level or both expression and activation levels of AKT2 in each of the plurality of control cell pellets is not the same.

16. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the expression, activation level or both expression and activation levels of AKT1 in each of the plurality of control cell pellets is not the same.